

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. - 25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A plane element for floors comprising a multilayer plate having a top face and a bottom face, the multilayer plate comprising

a thin pressure and abrasion resistant panel having a top face to be exposed as the top face of the plane element upon installation of the plane element and a bottom face, [[and]]

a layer of pressure resistant lightweight material having a top face adhered to the panel bottom face and a bottom face, the layer of pressure resistant lightweight material comprising polypropylene,

[[and wherein] grooves [[are]] situated in vertical edges of the plate beneath the panel, the grooves having a depthwise dimension vertical to said faces, each of the grooves being adapted to receive a connecting element comprising ledges adapted to be received in the grooves of adjacent said plane elements for connecting said adjacent plane elements together when said plane elements are side-by-side on a flat surface, and

wherein the respective grooves are of lesser length than the respective edges at which the grooves are formed and do not extend to corners of the plate, whereby the panel and the lightweight material layer are substantially flush apart from any irregularities in the edges.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The plane element according to claim 26,
wherein
furrows are formed in the bottom face of the lightweight material layer.

29. (Previously Presented) The plane element according to claim 26,
wherein
furrows are formed in the top face of the lightweight material layer.

30. (Previously Presented) The plane element according to claim 26,
wherein
furrows are formed in both faces of the lightweight material.

31. (Previously Presented) The plane element according to claim 28, 29 or 30, wherein

the furrows extend in two orthogonal directions.

32. (Currently Amended) The plane element according to claim 26[[or 27]], wherein

furrows are formed in at least one of the faces of the lightweight material layer and have a depth of 1mm to 10mm.

33. (Currently Amended) The plane element according to claim 26[[or 27]], wherein

vertical openings are formed through the lightweight material layer.

34. (Previously Presented) The plane element according to claim 31, wherein

vertical openings are formed through the lightweight materials,

and at least one of said openings is located at where two of said grooves extending in orthogonal directions would otherwise intersect.

35. (Previously Presented) The plane element according to claim 26,
further comprising

a planar reinforcing material situated between and coextensive with and
adhered to at least respective portions of the bottom face of the panel and the top
face of the lightweight material, the planar reinforcing material being highly stable
and being of lesser thicknesses and higher Young's modulus than the panel.

36. (Previously Presented) The plane element according to claim 35,
wherein

the planar reinforcing material is comprised of at least one of CFRP,
CFRP fabric, glass fibers or metal.

37. (Previously Presented) The planar element according to claim 35 or
36, wherein

the reinforcing material is received in the lightweight material layer.

38. (Previously Presented) The planar element according to claim 37,
wherein

slits or grooves spaced from said edges of the lightweight material layer
for receiving the lightweight material layer are formed in the lightweight material
layer, the reinforcing material is in the form of strips and the strips are received in
the reinforcing material- receiving slits or grooves.

39. (Currently Amended) The plane element according to claim 26[[or
27]],

wherein the plane element is quadrilateral, is of thickness 10 to 20mm and
has edges of length 300 to 500 mm.

40. (Currently Amended) A flooring kit, comprising
a plurality of plane elements according to claim 26[[or 27]], and
a plurality of connecting elements comprising ledges adapted to be
received in the grooves of adjacent said plane elements for connecting said
adjacent plane elements together when said plane elements are side-by side on a
flat surface.

41. (Previously Presented) The flooring kit according to claim 40, wherein each said connecting element comprises a vertical blade of a height predetermined so that a top edge of the vertical blade will be substantially flush with the top face of the panel upon installation of the flooring and two horizontal blades on opposite sides of the vertical blade, the two vertical blades comprising said ledges and being of width slightly smaller than width of the grooves.

42. (Previously Presented) The flooring kit according to claim 41, further comprising
liner elements for the grooves, the liner elements being comprised of a material different from the lightweight material and being received in the grooves.

43. (Previously Presented) The flooring kit according to claim 41, wherein the top edge is covered by a decorative material.

44. (Previously Presented) The flooring kit according to claim 41, wherein portions of the horizontal blades are of greater thickness than the remainder of the horizontal blades for firmer engagement in the grooves.

45. (Previously Presented) The flooring kit according to claim 41, wherein the ledges are so configured as to form a miter at upper edges thereof when the respective ledges meet at the cross-over of plates joined in two horizontal directions.

46. (Previously Presented) The plane element according to claim 28, 29 or 30, wherein the furrows are spaced from the grooves and/or edges of the lightweight material layer.

47. (Previously Presented) The plane element according to claim 28, 29 or 30, wherein the furrows impinge on the grooves and/or edges of the lightweight material layer.

48. (Currently Amended) The plane element according to claim 26[[or 27]], further comprising additional layers between the panel and the lightweight material layer.

49. (Currently Amended) The plane element according to claims 26[[or 27]], further comprising

at least one additional layer adjacent the bottom face of the lightweight material layer.

50. (Previously Presented) The plane element according to claim 49, further comprising

fleece on the bottom face of the lightweight material layer as glue primer, and

an application of glue on the primer,

wherein the at least one additional layer is adhered by means of the glue-bearing primer to the bottom face of the lightweight layer material.

51. (Currently Amended) The plane element according to claim 26[[or 27]], wherein

the plate is comprised of at least one of natural stone, glass, wood or metal.

52. (Currently Amended) The plane element according to claim 26[[or 27]], wherein the plate is comprised of natural stone.

53. (New) The plane element according to claim 26, wherein
the bottom face of the layer of pressure resistant lightweight
material defines a series of openings and adjacent furrows cooperable to distribute
heat to the panel from a heat source positionable beneath the layer of pressure
resistant lightweight material.

54. (New) The plane element according to claim 53, wherein
the openings are substantially circular whereby semicircular
portions thereof are bisected by an adjacent furrow.